(c) how many of the recommendations have been accepted and what steps are being taken by Government to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) the Conference consiedered a number of recommendations for incorporation in the regulations for management of hazardous substances and wastes under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and their deliberations and views are being taken into account in the final set of rules and regulations to be issued.

244. [*Transferred to the 3rd March,* 1989]

245. [*Transferred to the 3rd March,* 1989]

Appraisal of mass loan mela scheme

246. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any appriasal of mass loan mela scheme of nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, whether the appraisal was satisfactory, and if otherwise, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Credit Camps are organised by Public Sector Banks as part of the overall programme to accelerate flow of credit to the Weaker Sections. Central Government have not made any appraisal of the Nationalised Banks Credit Camps Scheme. However, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had conducted a sample study on credit camps in 1986. Based on the feed back obtained then and subsequently, the programme is kept under review by the banks. In granting loans to Weaker Sections, banks are required to follow the instructions and guidelines, issued for the purpose, by Reserve Banks of India.

Changes in the disciplinary rules applicable to bank officers

247. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI ASHIS SEN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognise the urgency to change the disciplinary rules applicable to the bank officers for facilitating continuance of proceedings started during their service period even after their retirement; and

(b) if so, by when such a change is likely to be brought about in such rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The matter regarding suitably amending the Disciplinary Rules for facilitating continuance of proceedings after retirement of officers is receiving the attention of the Government.

Indiscriminate sanctioning of loans by banks

248. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loans under mass loan mela schemes of nationalised banks were indiscriminately sanctioned

without proper identification and were given through middlemen; and

(b) if so, when Government first came to know of such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Public Sector Banks organise credit camps as part of their overall measures to accelerate credit assistance to weaker sections of the society. The banks observe the guidelines/Instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time regarding eligibility criteria, project appraisal and post sanction supervision as also recovery procedure etc, for all loans given by them whether at credit camps or otherwise. Any diversion from lending guidelines of Reserve Bank of India/ Government by banks is looked into at appropriate levels.

Setting up of export promotion zone at Visakhapatnam

249. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is enormous delay in setting up of the Export promotion zone at Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) by when the work on the project is likely to start; and

(d) whether any time-frame has been contemplated for the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (d) Government have agreed in principle to the location of a possible Export processing Zone at Visakhapatnam. The modalities of implementing the possibility have to be worked out having regard to the relevant techno economic considerations. It is not possible to indicate a time limit in this regard at this stage.

Projects from Andhra Pradesh pending clearance

250. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects cleared during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 from forest and environment angles which were received from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of such projects that are still pending clearance;

(c) whether there is a time-frame for the clearance of these projects; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a cost escalation on the projects because of the non-clearance of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) the number of projects of Andhra Pradesh cleared from Environmental and Forestry angles during 1987-88 and 1988-89 are as under:

1987-88	8
1988-89	22

(b) 20 cases of Andhra Pradesh are pending.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir

Forest Land

251. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of forests in the total land area in India at the